

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) ~~An information processing apparatus~~ A network management server connected to a network, comprising:

recording means for recording ~~the identification information~~ pertinent to ~~a second~~ an information processing apparatus, said information includes at least identification information of said information processing apparatus;

receiving means for receiving ~~the identification information~~ sent from said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus, when said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus is connected via said network, the identification information used to identify said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus;

verifying means for verifying whether said identification information received by said receiving means has already been recorded by said recording means; and

controlling means for controlling said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus over said network based on verified results by said verifying means.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~The information processing apparatus~~ network management server according to claim 1, wherein said identification information ~~includes~~ is a serial number of said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~information processing apparatus network~~
management server according to claim 1, wherein said controlling means causes said ~~second~~
information processing apparatus to execute first setting processing upon verification that said
identification information received by said receiving means has already been recorded in said
recording means,

said controlling means causing said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus to
execute second setting processing upon verification that said identification information received
by said receiving means has not been recorded in said recording means.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~information processing apparatus network~~
management server according to claim 3, wherein said first setting processing and the second
setting processing represent setting processing for said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus
to utilize said network.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~information processing apparatus network~~
management server according to claim 4, wherein said controlling means sends an address on
said network of a server used for connecting said ~~second~~ information apparatus to said network,
to said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus, and sets the address so sent, as the information
necessary for said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus to utilize said network.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~information processing apparatus network~~
management server according to claim 4, wherein said recording means further records the
inherent information for specifying a user of said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus;

said controlling means requests transmission of said inherent information to said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus upon verification that said identification information received by said receiving means has been recorded in said recording means.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~information processing apparatus~~ network management server according to claim 6, wherein said inherent information includes a password.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~information processing apparatus~~ network management server according to claim 4, wherein upon verification that said identification information received by said receiving means has not been recorded on said recording means, said controlling means requests said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus to transmit the information on a user utilizing said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus.

9. (Currently Amended) An information processing method for an ~~information processing apparatus~~ a network management server connected to a network, comprising:

a recording controlling step of controlling recording of ~~identification~~ information pertinent to a ~~second~~ an information processing apparatus, ~~wherein said identification information is used to identify said second information processing apparatus~~ said information includes at least identification information of said information processing apparatus;

a receiving step of receiving ~~the identification information related to the second information processing apparatus~~ sent from said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus, when

said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus is connected via said network, the identification information used to identify said information processing apparatus;

a verifying step of verifying whether said identification information received in said receiving step has already been recorded in said recording controlling step; and

a controlling step of controlling said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus over said network based on results of said verifying step.

10. (Currently Amended) A recording medium having recorded thereon a computer-readable program for controlling ~~an information processing apparatus~~ a network management server connected to a network, said program including:

a recording controlling step of controlling recording of ~~identification~~ information pertinent to an ~~other~~ information processing apparatus, said information includes at least identification information of said information processing apparatus to identify said second information processing apparatus;

a receiving step of receiving the identification information sent from said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus when said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus is connected via said network, the identification information used to identify said information processing apparatus;

a verifying step of verifying whether said identification information received by the receiving step has already been recorded in said recording controlling step; and

a controlling step of controlling said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus over said network based on results by the verifying step.

11. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus connected to a network, comprising:

storage means for storing at least identification information used to identify said information processing apparatus;

transmission means for transmitting said identification information stored in said storage means over said network to a ~~second information processing apparatus network management server~~ to identify said second information processing apparatus;

receiving means for receiving ~~first control information~~ transmitted from said ~~second information processing apparatus network management server~~ over said network, based on said identification information transmitted from said transmission means; and

setting means for setting ~~the~~ information necessary for utilizing said network based on said ~~first control~~ information received by said receiving means.

12. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said setting means sets ~~the~~ information necessary for exploiting said network in a first mode when said control information received by said receiving means is ~~the~~ first control information;

said setting means setting ~~the~~ information necessary for exploiting said network in a second mode when said control information received by said receiving means is second control information.

13. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said setting means executes first setting processing when ~~the~~ identification information transmitted by said transmission means has already been recorded in said ~~second information processing apparatus~~ network management server;

said setting means executing second setting processing when ~~the~~ identification information transmitted by said transmission means has already been recorded in said ~~second information processing apparatus~~ network management server.

14. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said first setting processing and ~~the~~ said second setting processing represent information setting processing necessary for said information processing apparatus to utilize said network.

15. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said setting means ~~receives~~ sets an address on said network of a server connecting said information processing apparatus to said network, said address received by said receiving means.

16. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said ~~second information processing apparatus~~ network management server stores inherent information used for specifying a user of said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus;

said setting means transmitting said inherent information to said ~~second~~
~~information processing apparatus~~ network management server if said identification information
transmitted by said transmission means has been recorded in said ~~second information processing~~
~~apparatus~~ network management server.

17. (Previously Presented) The information processing apparatus according to
claim 16, wherein said inherent information includes a password.

18. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to
claim 11, wherein said setting means transmits information pertinent to a user employing said
~~second information processing apparatus~~ to said ~~second information processing apparatus~~
network management server if said identification information transmitted by said transmission
means has not been recorded in said ~~second information processing apparatus~~ network
management server.

19. (Currently Amended) An information processing method for an
information processing apparatus connected to a network, comprising:
a storage controlling step of controlling storage of identification information;
a transmission step of transmitting said identification information stored during
said storage controlling step over said network to a ~~second information processing apparatus~~
network management server, wherein said identification information is used to identify said
~~second information processing apparatus~~;

a receiving step of receiving ~~the~~ control information transmitted from said ~~second~~
~~information processing apparatus~~ network management server over said network, based on said
identification information transmitted by processing in said transmission step; and

a setting step of setting ~~the~~ information necessary for utilizing said network based
on said control information received by processing in said receiving step.

20. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium adapted to store a
computer program for controlling an information processing apparatus connected to a network,
said computer program including:

~~program code for a~~ storage controlling step of controlling storage of identification
information;

~~program code for a~~ transmission step of transmitting said identification
information stored during said storage controlling step over said network to ~~an~~ ~~second~~
~~information processing apparatus~~ a network management server, wherein said identification
information is used to identify said ~~second~~ information processing apparatus;

~~program code for a~~ receiving step of receiving ~~the~~ control information transmitted
from said ~~second information processing apparatus~~ network management server over said
network, based on said identification information transmitted by processing in said transmission
step; and

~~program code for a~~ setting step of setting ~~the~~ information necessary for utilizing
said network based on said control information received by processing in said receiving step.